

Remarks

The Office Action mailed February 14, 2005 has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendment has been made in consequence thereof.

Claims 1-22 are now pending in this application, of which claims 1, 14, and 16 have been amended. It is respectfully submitted that the pending claims define allowable subject matter.

The rejection of claims 1, 12-16, 18 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Arnett (U.S. Patent 5,559,922) is respectfully traversed.

Arnett describes a wire guide and storage spool assembly (1) that may be coupled to a patch panel (2). Specifically, the assembly (1) includes a pair of wire guides (3) that support a storage spool (4). Optical fibers (34) are wound around the storage spool (4) for storage. A plurality of V-shaped guides (22) are oriented along one side of the storage spool (4). Each V-shaped guide (22) is defined by two arcuate surfaces along which optical fibers (34) can be guided to and from the storage spool (4).

Claim 1 recites a cable management system having “a patch panel having a first connectivity interface configured to connect with cables,” and “a wire manager located proximate said patch panel, said wire manager having a body with a curved interior contour defining a cavity configured to hold cables, said wire manager being oriented in a non-orthogonal relation to said patch panel such that said body extends at a non-orthogonal angle from said first connectivity interface.”

Arnett does not describe nor suggest a wire manager having a body with a curved interior contour defining a cavity configured to hold cables as recited in claim 1. Rather, in contrast to the present invention, Arnett describes an assembly having a pair of wire guides that support a storage spool. A plurality of V-shaped guides are oriented along one side of the storage spool which guide the optical fibers to and from the storage spool. Notably, the two arcuate surfaces defining the V-shaped guides do not define a cavity configured to hold cables as recited in claim 1. Rather, the optical fibers are directed along the outer surfaces of the V-shaped guides to and

from the spool. Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, claim 1 is submitted to be patentable over Arnett.

Claims 12-13 depend from independent Claim 1. When the recitations of claims 12-13 are considered in combination with the recitations of claim 1, Applicants submit that dependent claims 12-13 likewise are patentable over Arnett.

Claim 14 recites a wire manager for retaining cables in a cable management system having a connectivity interface configured to connect with cables, wherein the wire manager includes “side walls, at least one of said side walls being configured to be located proximate the connectivity interface of the cable management system”, “a front wall joined to said side walls”, and “a back wall joined to said side walls, said front, back and side walls surrounding a cavity having a curved interior contour, said front and back walls extending at non-orthogonal angles from said side wall located proximate the connectivity interface such that said front and back walls extend at a non-orthogonal angle from the connectivity interface when the wire manager is located proximate the connectivity interface.”

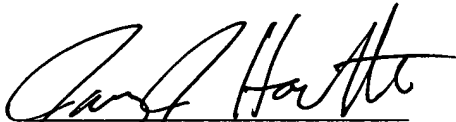
Arnett does not describe nor suggest a wire manager having front and back walls extending at non-orthogonal angles from a side wall located proximate a connectivity interface of a cable management system such that the front and back walls extend at a non-orthogonal angle from the connectivity interface when the wire manager is located proximate the connectivity interface. Rather, in contrast to the present invention, Arnett describes an assembly having a pair of wire guides that support a storage spool. A plurality of V-shaped guides are oriented along one side of the storage spool which guide the optical fibers to and from the storage spool. Notably, Arnett does not describe nor suggest a wire manager having front and back walls extending at non-orthogonal angles from a side wall located proximate a connectivity interface as recited in claim 14. Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, claim 14 is submitted to be patentable over Arnett.

Claims 15-16, 18 and 19 depend from independent claim 1. When the recitations of claims 15-16, 18 and 19 are considered in combination with the recitations of claim 1, Applicants submit that dependent claims 15-16, 18 and 19 likewise are patentable over Arnett.

For the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request that the Section 102 rejection of claims 12-16, 18 and 19 be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all the claims now active in this application are believed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jay J. Hoette", written over a horizontal line.

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